



June 2014

Volume 10, Issue 4

© 2014 Radio Club of Tacoma

From the Editor

Mark your calendars! At the June regular membership meeting to be held on June 11th at the Library Administration Building (112th and Waller Road), club member Dave W7UUU will provide an overview and demonstration of many of the operating and programming functions of Baofeng hand-held radios. And his gracious wife Ann N7ANN will give us the opportunity to fill our coffee cups and munch on some snacks. This will be a great chance to become more familiar with the capabilities of your handi-talkies.

At this writing, we are about 23 days away from our 2014 ARRL Field Day event. This is one of the operating and socializing highlights of the year. A great chance to get on the air, hone your skills, enjoy the fellowship of your colleagues, and feast upon epicurean delights. The main event will take place Saturday and Sunday, June 28 & 29 at the Clubhouse, with setup and teardown taking place before and after.

Our Wednesday Workshop on May 28 featuring Field Day training was well attended and well presented. Radio stations were configured to give participants an opportunity to simulate 'on the air' qsos and to become familiar with both operating and logging protocols. See page 6 for a few snapshots of club members in action.

And the club leadership would like to say a special thank you to Dave W7UUU and Ann N7ANN for stepping up to the plate and taking charge of programs and refreshments at the monthly membership meetings.

That's it for this issue. See you at the events.

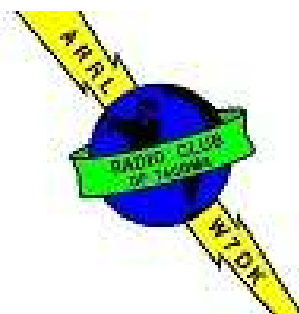
73 de Mike W7MWF

In This Month's Issue

Minutes and Meeting Highlights	Page 2
Field Day 2014	Page 5
Wednesday Workshop Photos	Page 6
Member's Wallpaper	Page 9
The Fine Print	Page 10

W7DK

**Proudly celebrating 97
years of service to
Amateur Radio in the
Pacific Northwest**



**Board of Directors Meeting
7 May 2014 Minutes**

The 7 May 2014 Radio Club of Tacoma Board meeting was held at the Radio Club of Tacoma.

Officers and board members present:

Vice President	Mike Mikuchonis W7XTZ
Secretary	Larry Watson KD4VOM
Board Member	Bruce Hanson WE7P
Board Member	Nick Winter K7MO
Board Member	Mike Finnie W7MWF

There were 14 names on the attendance roster which is attached to the original copy of these minutes.

Quorum: Yes

The meeting was called to order at 7 pm by Vice President Mike Mikuchonis W7XTZ.

Minutes:

A motion to approve the minutes of the 2 April 2014 Board Meeting as coordinated was made, seconded and passed.

HEALTH AND WELFARE: Bob Heselberg K7MXE has suffered some sort of infection, and Jon Marcinko K7KG has become a Silent Key.

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

Bank Statements
Utility and Phone Bills
Newsletters
QEX Journal
Electric Radio
Contest Journal
ARRL WW DX W7DK Award
Memberships

TREASURER'S REPORT: Bob AD7LJ provided financial reports for April to Larry, but he forgot to bring them. They will be sent to the Board members by email.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Membership:

Membership Booklets have been mailed

Formal transfer of the Membership program has passed to George Salisbury K7CRS. George has al-

ready provided an improved membership search capability on the W7DK.org website in place of the former spreadsheet document.

Training:

Next Technician Class June 7/8

Information Technology:– Randy Myers WB4SBP

Field Day Logging program installation and setup are underway.

Randy also noted that the Classroom computer has failed and requires troubleshooting.

HF Operations:

The Club's Beam Antenna Rotor: Bruce W7EP

Thanks to Bruce W7EP, Rich KR7W and the team that had the rotor repaired and returned to the tower antenna.

HF Room Patch Panel Project: AI N7OMS No official report, N7OMS is acquiring the patch panel parts approved at the last meeting.

Repeaters: Tim K7TMW

There were reports of the 147.28 repeater troubles at week before last's Tuesday night net, Nick K7MO checked and could not verify the issue. Same for Repeater manager Tim K7TMW.

Repeater Status:

W7DK 145.21 Repeater, Bates Channel 28: Operational

W7DK 147.28 Repeater Clubhouse: Status – Operational

W7DK 147.38 Repeater Crawford Mountain: Status – Operational, awaiting installation of the 440 MHz control unit

W7DK 440.625 Repeater Clubhouse Status – Operational

IRLP (147.28 Repeater) Operational

Facilities Management:

Clubhouse Back Door Replacement: Bruce WE7P reported that Mike Buettner K7STO and his friend Woody replaced the clubs back door. Rich KR7W

noted that he is not planning to install the needed new back door trim.

RCT riding lawnmower: Bruce WE7P the disposition of the lawnmower has been turned over to the Property Manager.

Upstairs Rug issue: Rich KR7W mentioned that the upstairs rug remains a tripping hazard and recommends the club consider hiring a professional to evaluate our options.

Mike W7XTZ will check with someone he knows to see if they can visit and assess the options for us.

Property Management:

Donations: Bruce WE7P mentioned that Frank AC7JY reports several donations underway including some very old magazines and books for the Librarian to review.

Museum: Rich KR7W

Occasional Operation of the Museum gear was noted

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Workshop Project

The May 28th Workshop is planned for Field Day Preparation by offering members an opportunity to familiarize themselves with the RCT HF Station operations and logging. Rich Patrick KR7W has offered to conduct this workshop.

BARK Newsletter Mailings:

The Club's BARK mailing program has ended.

NEW BUSINESS:

Library Administration Meeting Room: Mike W7XTZ: received a letter from the Pierce County Library Administration noting their service and support, and soliciting contributions.

Larry KD4VOM will investigate the possibility of donating ARRL publications to the Library instead.

DISCUSSION TOPICS:

Meeting Program Coordinator:

Larry KD4VOM reminded the Board that **Frank AC7JY** has retired from the task of providing pro-

grams for the General Membership Meetings, and we need to find someone to take over this important task.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

SEAPAC ARRL Convention, 6-8 June, Seaside Oregon

The meeting was adjourned at 19:45

The RADIO CLUB OF TACOMA needs your donations...

DONATIONS PLAY A BIG PART IN FUNDING THE OPERATION OF RCT. IF YOU HAVE UNWANTED OR UNNEEDED AMATEUR RADIO OR RELATED EQUIPMENT. PLEASE CONSIDER DONATING IT TO THE CLUB

If you have something to donate Contact Frank Palmer AC7JY, Property Management Team Leader

General Membership Meeting

14 May 2014 Meeting Notes

The 14 May 2014 General Membership meeting was held at the Pierce County Library Administration Building at Waller Road and 112th Street. .

Vice President Mike Mikuchonis W7XTZ called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

Officers and board members present:

Vice President	Mike Mikuchonis W7XTZ
Secretary	Larry Watson KD4VOM
Board	Mike Finnie W7MWF
Board	Nick Winter K7MO

A sign in sheet with the names of members and guests is attached to the original copy of these minutes. There were 32 names on the attendance roster.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Was led by Vice President Mike W7XTZ

INTRODUCTIONS: Guest welcoming and self-introductions were completed. There were several first time visitors.

ILLNESS OR SILENT KEY: Linda, AB7YL reported her father Harry W7HSA is in an assisted living

facility and would welcome visitors, contact Linda. Bob Hesenberg K7MXE continues to recover. .

Correspondence:

Newsletters	Bank Statements
Utility Bills	Membership Renewals
Newsletters and Journals	
ARRL DX Certificates	

The Field Day Pig was circulated to collect donations for Field Day operations.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Membership: George K7GRS presented a comprehensive demonstration of the new interactive membership search tool available on the W7DK.org website for Club members.

VE REPORT: Larry KD4VOM forgot to bring John Clarke AC7WW's VE report. In the interest of completeness, it has been attached to the end of these minutes.

HF Station: The Club HF Stations main beam antenna rotor has been repaired and has been returned to service, thanks to Rich KR7W and all the team that made this happen.

Facilities: Mike Buettner K7STO and his friend Woody completed the installation of a new metal back door at the Clubhouse.

PROGRAM:

The Ham's Wide World, from the ARRL Film Collection

ANNOUNCEMENTS:**RCT Workshops:**

The Club's workshop program on the 4th Wednesday at 7 pm at the Clubhouse is running well. May 28th workshop will be a planning meeting for Field Day, focused on helping members learn to operate the Mighty DK HF Station and logging software.

Meeting Refreshments: Anne Ellison N7ANN has stepped up to the meeting refreshments task. Thanks Anne for taking on the job for us all.

Program Manager: Dave Ellison W7UUU has accepted the Club's Meeting Program Manager position. Dave's already set up next month's presentation which will be Baofeng UV5R (& similar) programming and programming software.

DISCUSSION TOPICS:

SEAPAC ARRL Convention: This annual convention is held at Seaside Oregon and this year on June 6 through 8.

SHOW AND TELL: Jim Hatfield K7SSS brought in his new ARRL Centennial Key, A chrome beauty that drew great interest. The key is one of a numbered set.

TUNING AND TRAFFIC: None Reported

DOOR PRIZES: Newly minted ham Mike Isakson KG7KPG took home the ARRL Transceiver Troubleshooting book.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45pm

The missing VE report...

VE REPORT by John AC7WW

We had twelve candidates at the Radio Club of Tacoma testing session may 13th at the clubhouse. Six new Technicians joined the Amateur ranks, two candidates passed element two and three to become General operators, two candidates upgraded to General and one candidate upgraded to Extra. One candidate failed to earn an initial license.

Thanks to the following VE's for their time and effort.

Steve, AD7VL
Rich, KK7VH
Pete, KF7HYO

Jan, K7HTU
Stephen, AD7AB

The next monthly scheduled testing session will be Tuesday June 10, 2014.



W7DK Field Day 2014

Field Day 2014 will be June 28th and 29th, again at Radio Club of Tacoma's clubhouse, 1249 South Washington . Several issues were identified during last year's Field Day, and this will give us an opportunity to test the 'adjustments' that have been made to facilities and equipment over the past 12 months.

Gig Harbor Mike, W7GHW, is the coordinator for this year's event, and has lined up an eclectic collection of volunteers to assist with setup, tear-down, radio operations, catering, and facilities support. Additional help is always welcome, so check with Mike if you can pitch in and contribute your skills in one or more areas. Mike can be contacted by email elwell@centurytel.net , or by phone at 253-318-2169. He's typically around the Clubhouse on Saturday mornings, too.

What did you say?? You think you have no skills to contribute? Then Field Day is the perfect opportunity to spend some time at the clubhouse developing those skills. Many senior operators will be available to help mentor members on equipment usage, logging protocols, field day techniques and ethics.

There will be plenty of opportunities on Friday before Field Day to assist with setting up tents and shuffling tables and chairs to various locations. And again, on Sunday afternoon, all the fixtures that were dragged out of the clubhouse or garage will need to be stowed and secured.

It is expected that our operating class this year will be using at least 4 transmitters running on emergency power supplies. The Club acquired a new generator after the last field day, and, although it has been tested periodically for short durations, Field Day will be the true "Stress Test".

On Saturday evening, at our pot-luck banquet, we celebrate the opportunity to have fun, learn and practice our skills, and enjoy the camaraderie of our fellow hams. Then it is back to the rigs where several crews of operators and loggers will be keeping the tubes warm and making contacts throughout the night.

Sunday morning, the traditional and popular "Loggers' Breakfast" will be served, with an assortment of finely-crafted waffles, sausage, eggs, and who knows, maybe even some fried 'taters. Our chefs Paul W7PFU and Jan K7HTU go all-out to make sure we're well fed and energized to continue on the radios and still have enough strength left at the noontime to start teardown and stowage of gear.

Be sure to check the website (w7dk.org) for more complete details as the end of the month approaches. "Band Captains" will be identified, schedules may be posted for those who want to know when the best opportunities might be for 'on-air' time, and crew leaders for the many logistical tasks will be identified.

This will be our second year in a row holding Field Day at the clubhouse, and we expect to return to remote operating in the future, so why not come out and polish your skills this year, in relative comfort, as part of the W7DK Team?

Field Day Training Workshop
May 28, 2014
Hosted by Rich KR7W



In the photo to the left, a nearly-overflow crowd listens to instructions, tips, and tricks for Field Day operating strategies and for using the N3FJP Logging Software .

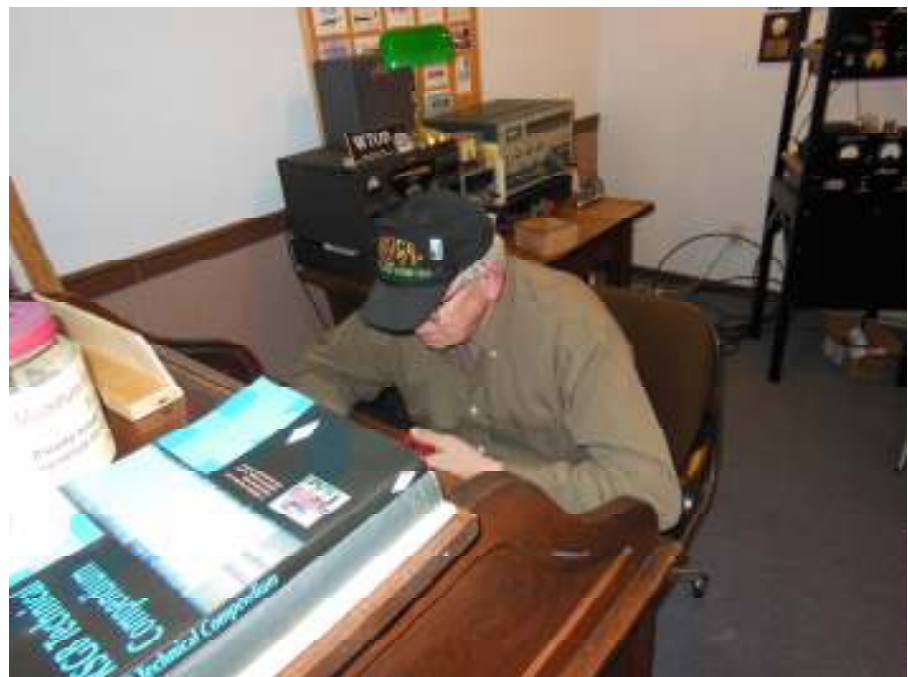
Pictured right, Steve K7DFC operates the ICOM 756 Pro III while Bob KF7GPO keeps track using the networked logging program. They made an





Valerie K7VAP and Helen Sue KF7SOW practice pouncing and logging at the HF station in the Lou Room under the watchful eyes of Mike W7XTZ and Pat WT7N

Using a KX3 into a dummy load, Bruce WE7P acts the part of a runner, providing opportunities for the pouncers to gain practice making and logging contacts. The museum was utilized for the "behind the curtains" runner simulation, and the HF room and the Lou Room were used by the search and pounce teams.



To the right, instructor Rich KR7W checks the progress of Steve and Bob as they search and pounce from the upstairs HF Station.

Below, part of the crowd during the presentation and question/answer period downstairs in the classroom.

A survey of the attendants at the class indicated that the instruction was first-class and that the training opportunity was extremely valuable.

Thanks to all who provided or participated in the workshop!





We're pleased to again this month offer up a couple of Harry N7DOE's cards. This pair of cards represents a couple of QSO's he had with amateur operators across the Pacific Ocean in Japan.

All club members are invited and encouraged to contribute cards, photos, stories, opinions, observations, or other tidbits for publication in The Bark. Either email them to me as a jpg file, or bring them by the clubhouse on a Saturday and I'll scan them. For textual contributions, MSWord, PDF, RTF or plain text files are suitable.





The Radio Club of Tacoma's *Logger's Bark*



The Logger's Bark is the **OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE RADIO CLUB OF TACOMA...** and is published by W7DK Press, PO Box 11188, Tacoma, WA 98411. The Radio Club of Tacoma is a non-profit corporation as defined by law, and all proceeds will be used exclusively for charitable and educational purposes. The Radio Club of Tacoma's Club House is located at 1249 Washington St, Tacoma, WA 98411, phone: 253-759-2040.

Club Officers

President: Gary McAdams WG7X 253-984-0868 email to wg7x@w7dk.org

Vice Pres: Mike Mikuchonis email to w7xtz@w7dk.org

Secretary: Larry Watson KD4VOM email to kd4vom@w7dk.org

Treasurer: Bob Purdom AD7LJ email to ad7lj@w7dk.org

5 Board Members (listed in no particular order)

James Mendenhall KE6WHN email to ke6whn@w7dk.org

Nick Winter K7MO email to k7mo@w7dk.org

Bruce Hanson WE7P email to we7p@w7dk.org

Mike Elwell W7GHW email to w7ghw@w7dk.org

Mike Finnie W7MWF email to w7mwf@w7dk.org

Logger's Bark Staff

Editor "Stop the Presses!!" Mike Finnie, W7MWF email to w7dk-news@earthlink.net

Proofreader Extraordinaire "Don't rely on SpellChecker!" Bob Jamison KE7WPK

Printer/Publisher: "Start the Presses" John Clarke, AC7WW, 253-475-5854

Contributors: The members of the Radio Club of Tacoma...

Send articles to: w7dk-news@earthlink.net or Bark, 1506 N Stevens St, Tacoma, WA 98406

The Fine Print: The Logger's Bark is published once a month for the membership of The Radio Club of Tacoma or interested ham radio enthusiasts. The Bark is delivered by PDF file on the club's website: www.w7dk.org. If a condensed paper copy is needed... then let the Printer/Publisher listed above know.

Permission is granted to use any or all portions of articles published in The Loggers Bark if Credit line is included in the article.

Membership Info: FULL (licensed) and ASSOCIATE (non licensed) is \$30 per calendar year. \$25 for Licensed Seniors (65 and over). Licensed family members at same address pay \$15 each for the first two and are free for the third, fourth, and so on. Fulltime students, licensed or non licensed, up to age 25 are \$15 per year. Note: fees are applicable for the calendar year: Jan to Dec. Lifetime membership is 20 times the yearly fee you are eligible for.. Lifetime memberships are calculated based on the FULL and ASSOCIATE rates.

Radio Club Repeaters

Central Tacoma: 147.280 + PL=103.5

Crawford Mountain (SE Thurston County): 147.380 + PL=103.5

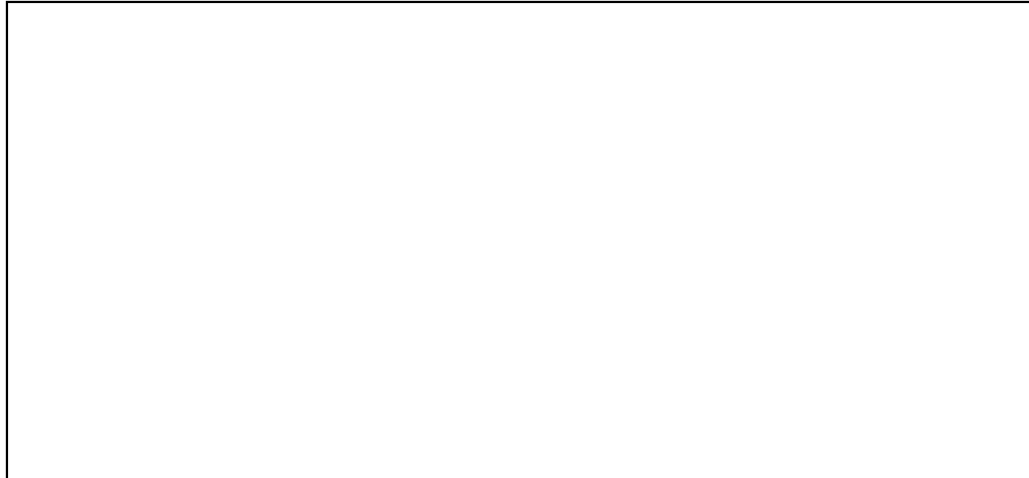
Central Tacoma: 440.625 + PL=103.5

North Tacoma: 145.21 - PL=141.3

Remember - For the latest and most current information on events and activities, visit the Radio Club of Tacoma Website w7dk.org. Be sure to enroll as a member to see all the info.

The Loggers Bark
Radio Club of Tacoma
PO Box 11188
Tacoma, WA 98411

To RCT Member:



Upcoming RCT Events

Club Meetings: Second Wednesday of the month at the Library Administration Building 112th and Waller Road. The club meets at 7:30 PM. Everyone is invited to attend.

Workshops: Fourth Wednesday of the month at the Clubhouse, 1249 So. Washington St, Tacoma. A variety of training and educational events will be conducted.

Board Meeting: First Wednesday of the month at the RCT clubhouse. All members are welcome to attend .

Bark Deadline: Last week-end of each month. Please submit articles by that time!

Check into the weekly two meter net: Tuesdays at 7:30 PM on the club repeater on 147.280 MHz

Check into the weekly 10 meter net: Sundays at 8:00 PM on 28.375 MHz .